

SOWERBY BRIDGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

(J. LYONS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

(WM. E. FOSTER, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I.)

for the Year

1948

SOWERBY BRIDGE:
TREW & EDWARDS, LTD., PRINTERS, TOWN HALL STREET
1950.

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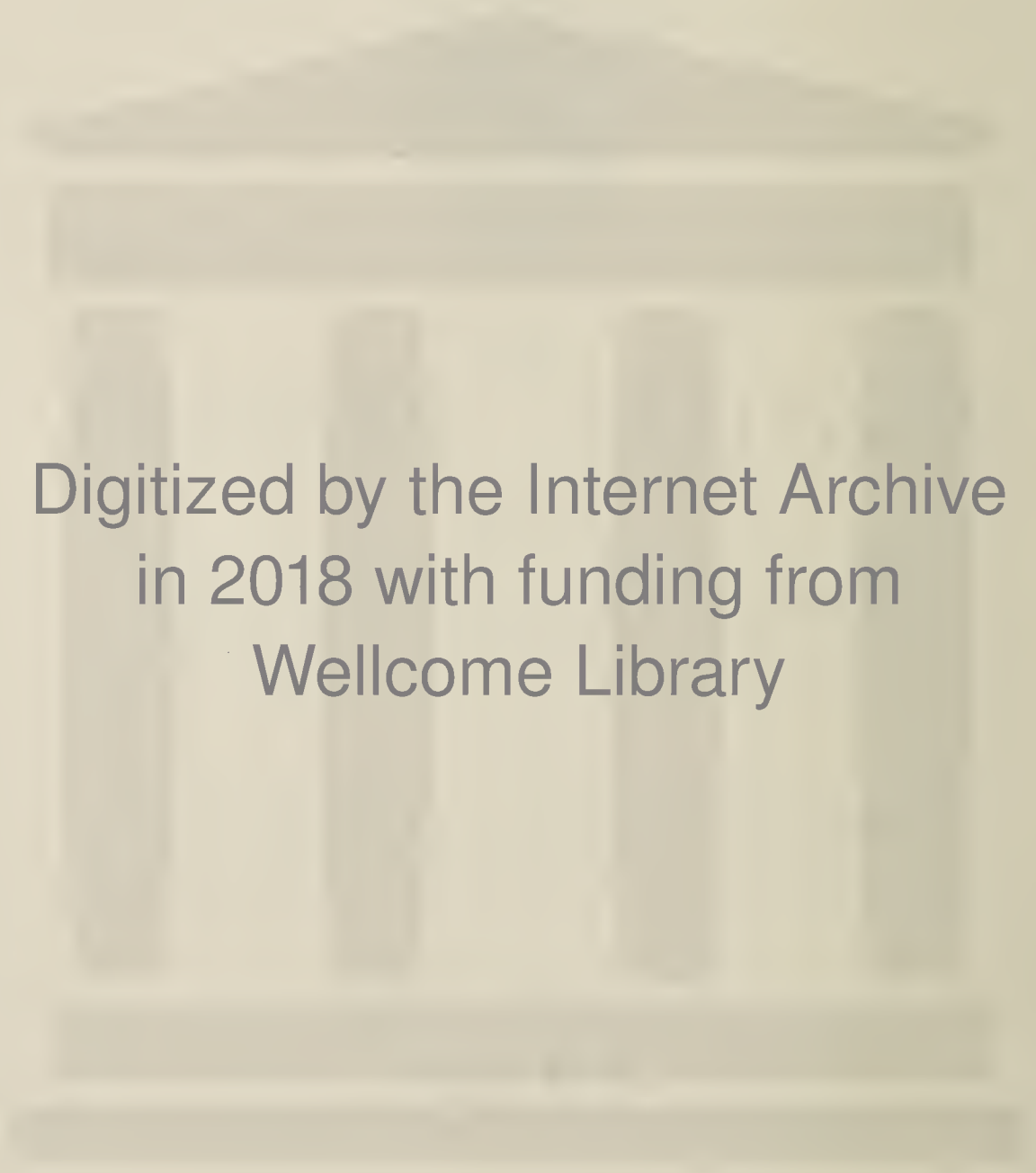
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URBAN DISTRICT OF SOWERBY BRIDGE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor W. CROSSFIELD, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council :

Councillor J. W. WILEY.

Chairman of the Health Committee :

Councillor A. SUTCLIFFE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee :

Councillor S. DAWSON.

Members of the Health Committee :

Ccr. R. Blakeley	Ccr. P. E. O. Bryan
„ W. B. Brown, B.Sc.	„ A. Butterworth
„ W. Corboy	„ E. Butterworth, C.C.
„ J. Greenwood	„ J. Grayshan
„ H. Haigh	„ E. D. Hall
„ F. Lord	„ C. G. Hopkinson
„ C. W. Maude, J.P.	„ W. I. G. Moffat
„ A. Murgatroyd	„ J. Noble
„ G. Sharpe	„ C. A. Teal
„ W. Tate	„ R. Tidswell

Members of the Health Sub-Committee :

Councillor A. Sutcliffe, J.P. (Chairman)
„ S. Dawson (Vice-Chairman)
„ J. Greenwood
„ P. E. O. Bryan
„ C. W. Maude, J.P.
„ W. Crossfield, J.P.
„ J. Grayshan
„ J. W. Wiley

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

SOWERBY BRIDGE U.D.C.

Medical Officer of Health :

R. C. WEBSTER, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.
(Resigned Aug, 31st, 1948).

J. LYONS, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Appointed Nov. 1st, 1948).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

G. A. WILTHEW, M.B., B.S., B.Sc.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

W. E. FOSTER, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

J. HOLMES, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.

Preventive Medical Services : Health Division 19.

Staff with duties in the Sowerby Bridge district—

Divisional Medical Officer :

As above (M.O.H.)

Deputy Divisional Medical Officer :

As above (Deputy M.O.H.)

Assistant County Medical Officers :

N. HAMLIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.
(Resigned May 1948)

T. M. LENNOX, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
(Appointed Sept. 1948).

Medical Officers to Sowerby Bridge Maternity & Child Welfare Clinics :

E. DOROTHY SHAW, M.B., Ch.B.

MADELEINE A. DOWDALL, M.B., Ch.B.

County Oculist :

R. BURNS, M.B., B.Ch.

Ear, Nose & Throat Consultant :

W. O. LODGE, M.D., F.R.C.S.

School Dental Officer :

J. TODD, L.D.S.

Health Visitors :

M. CLARK, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Commenced April, 1948).

H. HAWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned June, 1948).

E. B. NOWERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.C.N.
(Commenced Sept., 1948).

R. I. M. SCHOLICK, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor :

B. G. NICHOLL, S.R.N.

Mental Health Social Worker :

Miss S. PENNINGTON, B.A. (Soc. Admin.)

Home Nurse/Midwives :

C. BURCHNALL, S.C.M.

A. JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M.

A. G. REID, S.R.N., S.C.M.

A. M. SCHOLICK, S.R.N., S.C.M.

ABRAHAM ORMEROD MEDICAL CENTRE,
TODMORDEN.

October, 1949.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

My first Annual Report, like those of my worthy predecessors, is devoted largely to the vital statistics of the district. I am anxious, however, to present not merely a list of figures but a brief survey of the various health services at the disposal of the Sowerby Bridge community. Some of these services are not administered by your Council but all have a direct bearing on the public health and are therefore of vital concern to you. My joint appointment as Divisional Medical Officer for the West Riding County Council's health services and as your Medical Officer of Health makes this task easier. The fact that it was during 1948 that the National Health Service came into operation, bringing with it so many revolutionary changes, gives additional support for a review of this kind. I have also introduced a table of comparison of vital statistics in the five authorities comprising this Division. I hope that these departures from the usual procedure will meet with your approval.

The statistics of infectious disease reveal that during the year 1948 the district was free from any serious epidemics. There were, however, over 100 notified cases of measles and 80 notified cases of whooping cough. Whooping cough is a dangerous and damaging disease especially in young infants and

one awaits with eagerness the results of the trials in whooping cough vaccination being carried out by the Medical Research Council. But, even if whooping cough vaccination proves to be available, it may not be practicable for very young infants, and we must rely on breast feeding as the best safeguard. The spread of whooping cough and measles is encouraged by overcrowding and low standards of personal hygiene. Health education, improved living standards, and better housing, play a part therefore in the prevention of these as well as of other diseases.

It is gratifying to note that there were only two cases of diphtheria reported. This is a tribute both to the effectiveness of the immunisation campaign and to the improved health of the children. One of the two cases was fatal, the victim being an artificially fed unimmunised infant aged four months. Diphtheria at such an early age is fortunately a rarity. It is estimated that 80% of Sowerby Bridge children between the ages of 1 and 15 years have been immunised and it is hoped to increase the number still further during the next few years. It is proposed also to increase very greatly the number of children who have had "boosting" or "refresher" inoculations which give added protection against the disease. This will be done at special immunisation sessions at the schools.

The incidence of tuberculosis in Sowerby Bridge, although not exceptionally high, is nevertheless a matter for concern. 17 new cases were reported during the year and there were 6 deaths. This figure of 6 does not appear high when compared for example with the 39 deaths from cancer, but it must be noted that whereas 33 of the 39 cancer deaths were in persons over the age of 50 years, only 2 of the 6 tuberculosis deaths were in persons over 50 years, whilst of the 17 new cases of tuberculosis no fewer than 13 were under the age of 35 years. Tuberculosis is now recognised as a social disease, the incidence and spread being encouraged by bad living and working conditions, overcrowding and malnutrition, ignorance and poverty. Only after we have attacked these evil roots will the weeds of tuberculosis ultimately wither.

Among the non-notifiable diseases there is an impression of an increase in gastro-enteritis and ordinary diarrhoea, often spreading rapidly among members of the family. It is not generally realised that, in most cases, diarrhoea is an infectious disease easily passed on by unclean hands and faulty food hygiene. Furthermore, although frequently mild in adults, the disease is particularly dangerous in infants and one has to report that one infant died from this cause in the district during 1948. Every effort is being made by the Health Department to improve the standard of food hygiene in shops, restaurants, canteens and schools.

May I, in conclusion, thank the members of the Council for their kindness, patience and co-operation, and thank Mr. Foster, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for the extraordinary industry and energy with which he has helped me to tackle the numerous problems of the Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. LYONS,
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I.

Vital Statistics.

STATISTICS.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,966 acres
Population.	Registrar General's estimate of						
Resident Population, mid 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,230
Number of dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,801
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£91,243
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£350

Summary of Vital Statistics.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births—				Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 18·8
Legitimate ...	343	178	165	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	
Still Births—				Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ... 21·6
Legitimate ...	8	2	6	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	
All Deaths ...	266	140	126	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 13 8
Deaths of infants under 1 year—				Infant Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births) ... 33
Legitimate ...	12	4	8	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	

Causes of Death in Sowerby Bridge U.D.

1948

Cause of Death.						M.	F.
1	Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	1
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	4	2
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1
9	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—
10	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
11	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
12	Ac. Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
13	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M) and Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	1	1
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	8	4
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	—	6
16	Cancer of all other Sites	...	...	...	...	10	9
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	1
18	Intercranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	14	14
19	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	58	52
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	6	1
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	5
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	8	3
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	3	—
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	3	—
25	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	—	1
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	4	1
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	2	5
29	Puerperal and Post abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
31	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	1	3
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury; Infancy Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	3
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	2
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	—	1
35	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	1	1
36	All other Causes	...	...	...	...	6	9
Total all causes						140	126

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948

Based on Registrar-General's Figures.

Comparison with neighbouring districts in County Health Division 19

	Sowerby Bridge U.D.	Rippon- den U.D.	Todmor- den M.B.	Hebden Royd U.D.	Hepton U.D.
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) ...	18·8	14·2	15·5	15·1	15·7
DEATH RATES (all per 1,000 estimated population)					
All Causes	13·8	14·0	15·3	15·5	14·2
Zymotic Diseases (seven principal)*	0·1	Nil	Nil	0·2	Nil
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0·31	0·39	0·31	0·30	Nil
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	Nil	0·19	0·11	Nil	Nil
Respiratory Diseases † (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1·30	0·39	1·88	1·69	1·03
Cancer	2·03	1·75	2·46	1·99	2·06
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ‡	6·08	6·22	5·23	5·96	7·22
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)... ..	33	27	41	66	16
DIARRHOEA (Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births) ...	2·76	Nil	Nil	13·16	Nil
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Combined death rate from smallpox, scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system.

‡ Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system.

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948

Based on Registrar-General's Figures.

	Sowerby Bridge Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (Provis- ional figures)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) ...	18·8	18·3	18·5	17·9
DEATH RATES (all per 1,000 estimated population)				
All Causes... ..	13·8	11·8	11·3	10·8
Zymotic Diseases (seven principal)*	0·10	0·12	0·12	**
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0·31	0·37	0·37	0·44
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	Nil	0·07	0·07	0·07
Respiratory Diseases †(excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1·30	1·34	1·29	**
Cancer	2·03	1·83	1·74	1·86
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ‡	6·08	3·98	3·73	**
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	33	38	39	34
DIARRHOEA (Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	2·76	4·17	4·38	3·3
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)				
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	0·09	0·10	0·24
Other Causes	Nil	1·02	1·05	0·78
Total	Nil	1·11	1·15	1·02

* Combined death rate from smallpox (if any), scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.

‡ Combined death rate from Heart Disease and other Diseases of the Circulatory System.

** Figures not available.

SECTION II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Hospitals.

There is no hospital in Sowerby Bridge. Patients requiring hospital treatment are referred as a rule to hospitals under the administration of the Halifax Hospitals Management Committee (National Health Service). Included in this group are the Halifax General Hospital, Royal Halifax Infirmary, St. John's Hospital (for the aged and chronic sick), Shelf Sanatorium, Northowram Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Todmorden Fielden Hospital (for long stay medical cases in children), and Todmorden Stansfield View Institution.

Before 5th July, 1948 (the "appointed day" of the National Health Service Act) the Fielden Hospital was owned by Todmorden Corporation and used as an Isolation Hospital; 7 cases from the Sowerby Bridge Area were admitted by agreement. Cases of infectious disease from the Midgley and Luddenden areas were sent to Northowram Isolation Hospital under agreements made by the respective Councils. Also before this date the Todmorden Institution was controlled by the West Riding County Council and used as a Public Assistance Institution; it is now being converted for use as an Institution for mental defectives.

Maternity beds are available at both the Halifax General and Royal Infirmary. Priority in booking is given to abnormal cases, mothers expecting their first child, and mothers with unsatisfactory home conditions.

Special hospitals (e.g. Mental Hospitals, special Orthopædic Hospitals, Tuberculosis Sanatoria, etc.) outside the Halifax area are available when required; they are situated in various parts of the so-called "Leeds Hospital Region" which in fact extends into all three Ridings.

(b) Professional Nursing in the Home.

Before 5th July, 1948, this was carried out by three separate Nursing Associations, all of whom provided midwifery services as well as home nursing. After 5th July the West Riding County Council took over full responsibility from these Associations for both home nursing and midwifery, and from that date until the end of the year the four nurses concerned were employed by the West Riding County Council as full-time Home Nurses and Midwives.

(c) Ambulance Facilities.

The County Ambulance Service (Divisional Depot at Brighouse — telephone Brighouse 840) covers this district. Arrangements also exist with the Halifax County Borough Health Department for the use of their ambulances for the transfer of patients to and from their hospitals in Halifax.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres (see following page).

(e) Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Services (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at a central laboratory in Wakefield.

(f) Issue of Anti-toxin, etc.

Supplies of diphtheria and tetanus anti-toxin are available at the Halifax Isolation Hospital and the Halifax General Hospital for issue to medical practitioners requiring it. By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board supplies are also kept at the Divisional Health Office, The Medical Centre, Todmorden, for the use of local medical practitioners who have undertaken to participate in the West Riding County Council's scheme of immunisation.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Infant Welfare.

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge. The Institute, Luddenden Foot.	Thursdays. Every Tuesday, except 1st in month	2-0 - 4-30 p.m. 2-0 - 4-30 p.m.	Dr. E. D. Shaw Dr. M. A. Dowdall
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Ante-Natal and Post-Natal.

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge. The Institute, Luddenden Foot.	Tuesdays. 1st Tuesday in month.	2-0 - 4-30 p.m. 2-0 - 4-30 p.m.	Dr. E. D. Shaw Dr. M. A. Dowdall
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School Clinics.

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge. (a) Minor Ailments. (b) Dental. (c) Ophthalmic. (d) Ear, Nose & Throat (e) Artificial Sunlight.	Thursdays. As required. " " Mondays and Fridays.	9-0 - 11-30 a.m. By arrangement. " " 2-0 - 4-30 p.m.	Dr. E. D. Shaw Mr. Todd Dr. Burns Mr. Lodge —
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Diphtheria Immunisation.

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge. The Institute, Luddenden Foot.	At any Minor Ailments or Welfare Clinics.	—	—
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Tuberculosis.

The Medical Centre, Greenups Terrace, Sowerby Bridge.	Tuesdays and Thursdays.	By arrangement.	Dr. B. Mann Dr. Ranken
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SECTION III.

W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Sowerby Bridge and Luddenden Foot Ante-Natal Clinics.

Number of expectant mothers attending during the year	112
Total number of attendances	316

Child Welfare Clinics.

Number of children seen by doctor during the year	1739
Total number of attendances	3617

Home Visiting of Infants.

Total number of births to Sowerby Bridge mothers	363
Number of first visits to children under 1 year	354
Total number of visits to children under 1 year	1356
Total number of visits to children aged 1 - 5 years	1547

Day Nursery Accommodation.

There is a Day Nursery situated on the Beech Recreation Ground to which Sowerby Bridge and Ripponden children may be admitted, priority being granted on health grounds.

Care of Premature Infants.

Special equipment and nursing staff is available for use in the home in cases requiring them.

Provision of Maternity Outfits.

These are provided free to mothers preparing for confinement in their own homes.

(b) Midwifery Service.

Number of home confinements	92
Number of hospital confinements	271

Analgesia.—One midwife was trained in 1948 in the administration of gas and air analgesia, and she was provided with the necessary equipment. There has so far been remarkably little demand in Sowerby Bridge for this very useful service.

(c) Home Nursing Service.—See Section II.

(d) Ambulance Service.—See Section II.

(e) Health Visiting.

The duties of the Health Visitor are combined with those of School Nurse. In pursuance of the National Health Service Act the scope of this service includes home visiting for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of children, and persons (including adults) suffering from illness, and of expectant and nursing mothers. The Health Visitor also gives advice in the home as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

(f) Home Helps.

Owing to the shortage of labour in this district it was not possible to recruit any Home Helps during 1948.

(g) Care and After Care.

Special provisions are in operation for the care and after care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defect, venereal disease, and other illnesses.

(h) School Health Service.

Number of schools in district ...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of children in attendance at school at end of 1948	2665				
Number of children examined at school during 1948	...	1637			

 this figure being made up as follows :—

Routine examinations ...	...	...	1316	
Additional children specially examined				
at request of parent	...	...	4	
Re-examinations ...	...	...	317	
Number of children referred for treatment	...	...	...	191

(i) Immunisation and Vaccination.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against small-pox may be done either at the clinic or by the family doctor,

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time to 31.12.48.

Age at 31.12.48. i.e. born in year.	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total under 15
No. immunised	72	138	243	155	133	1040	1154	2935

Estimated mid-year population	0 to 4 yrs.	5 to 14 yrs.	Total under 15
	1516	2177	3693

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who completed a full course of Immunisation 1948.

Age	0-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Began and completed injections 1948	72	104	12	6	1	6	7	8	4	4	1	1	—	—	—
Total	...					226									

Immunised in previous years re-treated 1948	—	—	—	—	9	14	23	28	8	20	30	24	8	—	—
Total	...					164									

SECTION IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Summary of Notifications received in year 1948.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.
Smallpox	—
Scarlet Fever	18
Diphtheria	2
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid ...	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—
Pneumonia	4
Erysipelas	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—
Measles	107
Whooping Cough ...	80
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	3
	231

Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified during 1948 are given in detail in the following table :—

Age Period	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	—	—	—	—
1 - 5	—	1	—	1
5 - 10	—	—	2	—
10 - 15	—	—	—	—
15 - 20	1	—	—	—
20 - 25	1	1	—	—
25 - 35	5	1	—	—
35 - 45	—	—	—	—
45 - 55	2	—	—	—
55 - 65	1	1	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	4	2	1

There were six deaths from tuberculosis during 1948.

REPORT

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ending December 31st, 1948

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
COMMITTEE OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SOWERBY BRIDGE.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on (a) Sanitary Circumstances of the Area, (b) The Cleansing Department, (c) Housing, (d) Inspection and Supervision of Food, for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies.

Further extensions of the town's main have taken place on the housing site at Sowerby, where both the traditional type and permanent prefabricated houses are being erected. Bulk supplies from the Halifax Corporation have again been both suitable and sufficient, and samples obtained have proved to be satisfactory. The Norland supply, and the Rishworth supply feeding properties in Triangle, have also been sampled bacteriologically, and additional samples for plumbo solvency have been obtained from the former supply. All these samples have proved to be satisfactory.

With the extension of the mains, the number of dwellings now connected to the town's supply total approximately 4,522. Details of extensions by the Water Works Department are as follows :— 568 yards 6" iron pipe ; 635 yards 4" iron pipe ; 932 yards 3" iron pipe.

In the rural areas the private water supplies are very much in evidence, and supply approximately 2,279 houses. A considerable amount of time has been spent upon the examination of these supplies, which in many cases are the constant concern of the Department, on account of the fact that they may be subject to pollution from time to time. In the reconstruction of these supplies, of which a considerable number have taken place, every effort is made to avoid the slightest contamination, but whilst these supplies are neither filtered nor chlorinated, they do become suspicious on occasions. It is, however, encouraging to note that the majority of reconstructed supplies continue to give satisfaction, and samples of the same have been satisfactory upon bacteriological examination.

The Health Committee are, however, fully aware of the position relative to water supplies throughout the area, and are desirous of continuing the mains wherever practicable, but owing to difficulties, few extensions to existing properties up to the present have been achieved. Many schemes have been considered, but owing to uncertainties which exist relative to the life of the properties to be served and the unsuitability of land in the vicinity for development or re-development, the Committee have been reluctant to undertake any major schemes.

During the early part of the year, a complete survey of the lower part of Luddenden was completed, which covered some ten private supplies, serving 153 houses. The supplies varied in size, but were sufficient for the general requirements of the properties served, although certain of these appeared to be of doubtful purity. The supplies were sampled over a period, and whilst the majority proved to be satisfactory, others were polluted. The owners of the unsatisfactory supplies preferred to carry out remedial measures, and overhaul the existing supply, rather than apply for town's water. The extension of the town's main was therefore temporarily postponed.

Many difficulties are still in the way of providing town's water throughout the area. The extension of town's main is required in certain areas, to provide both a suitable and sufficient supply of water. I feel, however, that to pursue a policy of wholesale condemnation of all private supplies throughout the area in favour of a public supply, would, at the present time, be unwise, in view of the large number of private supplies which can be considered satisfactory, and the uncertainties relative to existing properties. Under such circumstances every effort is made to keep the private supplies safe.

The majority of the private water supplies have been sampled throughout the year, and the details of these are set out below :—

District	Bacteriological Examination				Chemical Examination			
	Sat.	D'ful	U/Sat.	Total	Sat.	D'ful	U'Sat.	Total
Norland	10	1	6	17	4	—	1	5
Sowerby and Blackwood	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—
Luddenden Foot	2	—	8	10	—	—	—	—
Luddenden and Midgley	32	7	15	54	—	—	2	2
Sowerby Bridge	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Totals	53	8	29	90	4	—	3	7

Drainage and Sewerage.

Extension to the sewer has been completed on the housing site at Sowerby, where the permanent dwellings are being erected. There has been no further extension during the year.

Sewer maintenance has continued, and any defects have been remedied. The more rural parts of the district still require sewerage. Numerous defects to the existing drainage systems have been reported, and others found whilst on routine inspection. These have been remedied. No major works of

reconstruction have been found necessary during the year. A considerable amount of extension to existing drainage systems has been carried out, in order to cater for the increased number of water closets, which have been provided in connection with the efforts of the Department to improve the sanitary conditions of the area. In all cases of extension, the water test has been applied before the work has been passed.

Details relative to the visits, inspections and tests are set out separately in the sanitary inspection of the area.

Sewage Disposal.

The sewage disposal works at Milner Royd, Sowerby Bridge, and High Royd, Luddenden Foot, continue to give satisfaction, no complaint being received from the Rivers Board relative to effluent. The works were designed solely for the reception of domestic sewage, but recently it has been observed that a certain amount of trade effluent has been received. This position is being carefully checked, and the amount of trade effluent of the district calculated, in order that a scheme may be submitted to deal with the entire trade effluent at a later date.

Sanitary Accommodation.

During the year the sanitary conditions of the area have been kept under review, and the conversion of the more primitive types of sanitary accommodation, such as pails and privies has continued throughout the year. In many cases separate accommodation continues to be provided, where joint accommodation previously existed. It has also meant the separate refuse accommodation also being made available. It appears that very little can be done in the cases where joint accommodation on the water carriage exists, to the older properties in the more congested parts of the district, owing to lack of space in the house and lack of additional land to provide the extra accommodation. The houses concerned are mainly of the back to back type.

During the year 24 conversions have taken place, the grants for these totalling £120 0. 0. In addition to these, 27 additional W.C's have been provided in the area. The position relative to the more primitive types of sanitary accommodation in the district at the present time is set out on the following table :—

District	Pails	Privies	Ashpits
Triangle and Mill Bank ...	78	15	—
Sowerby Bridge	38	—	—
Norland	130	10	—
Sowerby and Blackwood ...	175	38	—
Luddenden F't (inc. Butts Green)	160	—	—
Midgley	102	9	—
Totals ...	683	72	—

Considerable progress has been made during the year with the abolition of the waste water closet, 15 having been taken out and replaced by the wash down pedestal type basin. Very few of these now exist in the district.

Cleansing Department.

The cleansing of the district is carried out by direct labour, and still remains the responsibility of the Department. The disposal of the refuse is carried out jointly by the Department and the Engineer's Department, the Engineer being responsible for the Milner Royd tip and the destructor. The other means of disposal are under the supervision of this Department. Highways scavenging is carried out by the Engineer's Department.

Refuse Collection.

The collection of refuse has not yet returned entirely to a weekly system throughout the entire area, the whole of the out-districts and part of the housing estates, etc., are cleansed on a fortnightly basis, but in the very congested areas, weekly collection is in operation. All pails are cleansed and disinfected weekly.

During the year ashbins have been provided as a result of both formal and informal notice, and it is pleasing to note that the standard type bin is in operation almost throughout the entire area. In view of a report on this matter, the provision of refuse accommodation was considered by the Committee, and from 1st January, 1949, all bins in the district are to be provided and maintained by the Department. For this service there will be no ashbin charge whatsoever, but the charge for the replacement and maintenance of bins will be a direct charge on the rate fund. There are conditions, however, attached to the replacement of bins, the conditions being that a worn out bin will only be replaced where this is of the standard type, thus any other receptacle utilised as a bin will not be replaced. It is therefore the responsibility of the owner to have provided a standard type bin, in order to have this replaced. If there should be insufficient refuse accommodation, then a sufficient number of bins must be provided before the Department take over the responsibility of providing refuse bins free.

As mentioned in my last report, it is unfortunate that there has been no appreciable improvement in the use of many of the ashbins in the more congested parts of the district. The receptacle is still being abused, which is leading to rapid deterioration. It is also noted with regret that where joint accommodation exists, immediately the first bin is filled, the remainder of the refuse finds its way to the floor of the compartment instead of the other bins provided. Such abuse not only leads to rodent infestation, but seriously handicaps the Cleansing Staff in the duties of cleansing the district. It is sincerely hoped that a little more attention and thoughtfulness will be given to what may appear to be a trivial matter, but to the Cleansing Staff becomes a major problem.

The following table sets out in detail the types of receptacles, the number of loads and the vehicles concerned : —

Vehicles	Ashbins	Ashpits	Pails	Loads	Tons Cwt.
S. & D. No. 5	105,334	—	—	790	2,365 0
Commer No. 3	13,432	352	—	711	725 10
Bedford No. 7	4,258	95	36,603	860	1,481 10
Karrier No. 6	54,305	36	—	900	1,655 0
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	177,329	483	36,603	3,261	6,227 0

The total cost of collection and disposal amounts to approximately £4,300 0. 0.

Transport.

The following mechanical transport has been operated during the year :—

No.	Make	Year of Purchase	Capacity	Service
3	Commer N. 2F.C.	1938	7 cu. yards	Salvage and Trade Refuse
5	S. & D. Moveable Floor	1939	16 cu. yards	Ash Bins
6	Karrier Bantam	1946	7 cu. yards	Ash Bins
7	Bedford 7	1947	7 cu. yards	Pails and Pits

The vehicles are working very satisfactorily, with the exception of the Commer, which now requires replacing after ten years very satisfactory service. It is hoped that this will be replaced early next year. Details of maintenance charges for these vehicles for the year ended 31st March is set out separately. With the exception of the Commer vehicle, the vehicles of the Department have worked almost continuously. There are at the present time no repairs carried out on the premises, all the vehicles being serviced by a local garage. This has worked reasonably satisfactorily, but there is the inevitable delay when any breakdown occurs, and accordingly, the vehicle must be off the road for even a short period.

Storage.

The following table sets out a comparison of the types of refuse accommodation in the district at the present time compared with previous years :—

Year	Pail Closets	Privies	Ash Pits	Ash Bins
1945	712	96	8	6041
1946	688	84	2	6062
1947	694	82	—	6124
1948	683	72	—	6153

From the table it will be observed that there is again a reduction in the number of privies and ashpits, but little reduction in the number of pails. A considerable amount of conversion of this more primitive type of accommodation could take place if both sewer and water supply were available.

Although a number of pails and privies have been converted to the water carriage system, it was not possible to convert all the privies in this manner, and accordingly several earth closets were installed. These have been included under the heading "pails," thus the number in this column only shows a slight decrease.

We do confidently look forward to an improvement in the sanitary conditions in these out-lying properties, immediately the necessary sewers and water supplies become available.

Trade Refuse.

During the year approximately 162 tons of trade refuse have been removed from the shops and markets of the district, bringing in an income of approximately £42 0. 0. This appears to be quite a small income from this source, but the Council continue to empty one bin of trade refuse free of charge. The income is made up of the charge of 6d. for every additional bin or part thereof.

Refuse Disposal.

The house refuse of the district until recently has been mainly disposed of by complete incineration, but owing to the disrepair of the plant, towards the latter part of the year the Department has had to resort to controlled tipping. The tips used have been The Holmes, Luddenden Foot, and Milner Royd, Sowerby Bridge, but towards the year end The Holmes tip was completed and handed back to the Parks Department for playing fields. Milner Royd tip at the present cannot be extended owing to lack of suitable land, although negotiations are proceeding for the purchase of further land in the vicinity. The land owned by the Council at Daisy Bank, Luddenden Foot, has now been opened as a controlled tip, and the majority of the refuse is disposed of on this tip, which is being worked quite satisfactorily.

During the past year 40% of refuse has been disposed of by controlled tipping, and 60% by complete incineration. The amount of refuse disposed of by farmers, etc., is a negative quantity.

During the year there has been a slight cricket infestation on both Milner Royd and the Luddenden Foot tip, but these have been successfully dealt with. The rodent infestation at Luddenden Foot has been of a minor nature, but unfortunately the infestation has been much more severe at Milner Royd. This is being dealt with.

Salvage.

The collection of salvage has continued on similar lines as in previous years, and it is pleasing to report an increase of approximately £172 0. 0. over the previous years. The main source of income has been from waste paper and kitchen waste, although other materials are sorted, no special effort is made to separate these either at the destructor head or at the tip face, owing to the small return from these materials.

With the continued closing of military establishments, the kitchen waste returns show a reduction in the amount collected, although the income from this source, owing to the increased price was approximately the same. Almost the whole of the increase during the year can be attributed to waste paper. As reported last year, the position with loose tins has not improved, and as there was no outlet, arrangements were made to have the large quantities at the destructor head taken on to the tips. This has caused a certain amount of embarrassment, but the position has now been successfully dealt with.

Details relative to the sale of residuals, together with the amounts, are set out below :—

Materials Salvaged.					T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	...	110	10	3	707	3	1
Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	...	76	9	0	129	12	6
Ferrous Metals	...	...	...	...	6	17	3	19	4	4
Cullett	...	...	...	...	5	1	3	7	12	8
Textiles	...	...	...	...		6	0	3	18	2
Non-Ferrous Metals	...	...	...	...		3	3	3	15	7
Total					199	9	0	871	6	4

Infectious Disease and Disinfection.

Investigations have continued into each case of the more serious types of infectious disease notified through the normal channels, and all precautions necessary to avoid the spread of disease have been taken. Disinfection of the bedding has been carried out, together with the household effects where necessary.

Details of visits, etc., in connection with the notifications are set out below :—

Enquiries into cases of Infectious Disease ...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits ...	...	...	7
Visits re Disinfection, etc. ...	...	...	32

Smoke Abatement.

The factory chimneys of the area have been observed from time to time, 57 observations being taken, of which 15 showed excessive emission of black smoke. 15 cautions were issued and one statutory notice was served. Taking into consideration the age of many of these boiler installations, together with the type of fuel having to be used, the position is reasonably satisfactory. The premises in the area recently converted from solid fuel to pitch burning have continued to work satisfactorily, and no serious nuisance was observed.

As a result of the statutory notice, negotiations for the complete overhaul of the boiler plant, together with the extension of the existing chimney were continuing satisfactorily. It is sincerely hoped that this work will be completed early in the new year.

There does not appear to have been any serious increase in the pollution of the atmosphere from this source, which generally speaks well for the boiler firemen, who are having to work in many instances with a poor quality fuel, and having to force the boilers.

Factories.

As a result of routine inspection and complaint from H.M. Factories Inspector, 24 contraventions were received. As in previous years they have been mainly in connection with sanitary accommodation, the majority of which have been satisfactorily completed, in addition to the outstanding cases of the previous year. At the end of the year two works were outstanding. 100 visits and inspections of the factories have been carried out in order to have these works satisfactorily completed.

Inspections.

Factories	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
In which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 enforced by L.A's. ...	22	21	1
Where Section 7 is enforced	84	79	22
Total	106	100	23

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects found		
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness ...	1	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences :			
(a) Insufficient ...	3	3	3
(b) Unsuitable or defective	19	17	9
Total	24	22	12

Swimming Bath.

The public swimming bath has again functioned during the summer period, and continues to give satisfaction. Eight samples have been taken for bacteriological examination from both the inlet and the outlet, and in every case have proved to be satisfactory. The chlorine content of the bath, which was stepped up during the last year has been continued and varies from .5 to .7 parts per million. There have been no complaints from the bathers since this stepping up has been undertaken, which has been made possible by reason of the fact that a new chlorine gas plant has been installed. There are no private swimming pools in the area.

Nuisances.

As a result of complaints to the Department, together with those observed whilst on routine inspection, the total number of nuisances investigated amounted to 282, requiring 597 visits. As in previous years, the nature of the nuisance has varied considerably ; with the exception of 37 these have been satisfactorily dealt with. In addition, 31 complaints outstanding at the end of 1947 have been abated. The majority of the nuisances were abated in an informal manner, but on 9 occasions it was necessary to take formal action in order to have the necessary works for the abatement completed. It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings in any of these cases.

In addition to the above, 273 visits and inspections have taken place in connection with defective and insufficient refuse accommodation. As a result of this, 195 formal notices have been served and 25 informal notices. In all but 10 instances the notices have been complied with and no appeal to these has been lodged. A standard type ashbin has been provided in every case.

Offensive Trades.

There has been one addition to the register of offensive trades, being that of a fried fish shop. Two further applications were received, but these have not been added to the register, by reason of the fact that the necessary works for the establishment

of the offensive trade were not completed. At the end of the year there were 28 fish fryers on the register and two tripe boilers. 43 visits were made to these premises, and no serious contravention of the byelaws was observed.

The general cleanliness of the premises was found to be quite satisfactory, and it was pleasing to note that in regard to the fish fryers many were now having their ranges overhauled or renewed, and extractors fitted. There has not been the provision in all cases of the necessary separate cleaning and preparation room, but it is hoped to secure the provision of the same in the near future. The establishments can be considered to be reasonably satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

	Visits
Bakehouses	25
Camping Sites	6
Common Lodging Houses	3
Dangerous Buildings	5
Drainage, etc.	472
Factories	100
Fried Fish Shops	39
Houses Let in Lodgings	17
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	102
Offensive Trades	4
Public Conveniences	6
Refuse Collection	273
Refuse Disposal	74
Rodent Control (excluding Sewer Maintenance)	108
Schools	7
Shops	57
Smoke Observations	57
Stables and Piggeries	27
Tents, Vans and Sheds	23
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	5
Visits in connection re proposed conversions	114
Water Supplies	119
Total	<u>1,643</u>

HOUSING.

General Inspection.

A considerable amount of time has been spent on the inspection of the housing accommodation in the area, both as a result of complaint and general routine inspection. This has covered some 390 dwellings. Repairs, as in previous years, have been found necessary due to the lack of maintenance during the war years, and although the position has eased a little relative to the provision of labour and materials, it is still far from satisfactory.

It has not been possible to continue where we left off in 1939 with the Clearance Areas, due to the lack of alternative accommodation, and no attempt has been made to obtain improvements in these most unsatisfactory dwellings owing to the high costs, accordingly only the necessary works for maintaining the houses reasonably weather-proof have been carried out. The accumulative effect has generally brought about the lowering of the housing standards in parts of the district.

Many of the dwelling houses both in the out-districts and in the more congested parts are let at comparatively low rents, and whereas many owners in the past have maintained the property in a reasonable state of repair, it has now been observed that this practise has almost ceased, presumably on account of the fact that the cost of repairs has increased two and three-fold, whereas the rents have remained stationary. A considerable amount of this property appears to be becoming a liability to the owners, but the Department is well aware of the position, and has concentrated mainly on essential repairs and the carrying out of works which may lead to serious deterioration, if not completed.

Every assistance has again been given to the owners of property where difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a suitable Contractor, and arrangements made for the completion of the necessary works on their behalf. The re-chargeable works undertaken have amounted to approximately £300 0. 0. Where joint works are undertaken the cost of these has been allocated according to user. The owners concerned have been most appreciative of the assistance.

Under the Public Health Acts complaints involving 210 houses have been dealt with. 197 of these have been satisfactorily completed, together with those outstanding at the end of 1947.

Under the Housing Acts 180 dwellings have been inspected and work satisfactorily completed in 161 instances. All outstanding defects under this heading at the end of 1947 have also been completed. In order to complete these housing repairs under both headings, approximately 560 visits and inspections have been made. 6 notices were served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, the remainder being of an informal nature.

Overcrowding.

A general inspection of the district has been undertaken, in order to ascertain the position relative to overcrowding, in addition to which the overcrowding cards have been revised, and brought up to date, all age increases and additions to families being noted. This has brought to light 73 new cases, and these, together with 69 cases already on the register, make a total of 142 cases of overcrowding for the entire area. These cases have now been reduced to 67 at the end of the year, by reason of reduction in families and re-housing by the Council and the tenants themselves.

The majority of these cases are severe, by reason of the fact that many are appearing in two-roomed dwellings, of the back-to-back type, consisting of living room and bedroom, with a permitted number of 3, and whilst the equivalent number of adults may be only $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4, many young children are included, which makes the position serious.

In order to get a clear picture of the position, 470 visits to overcrowded and suspected overcrowded dwellings have been made. The position on the register at the end of the year shows that 31 old cases remain, whilst 36 new cases have been added,

making a total of 67. Details of the number of overcrowded houses in each ward are set out below :—

Ward				Old Cases	New Cases	Total
North	...	...	...	2	1	3
South	...	...	...	4	—	4
East	...	...	...	5	10	15
Central	...	...	...	7	5	12
Luddenden Foot	...	...	...	4	5	9
Norland and Triangle	...	...	...	3	8	11
Sowerby	...	...	...	4	5	9
Midgley	...	...	...	2	2	4
Total				31	36	67

Verminous Dwellings.

As a result of a general housing inspection, 37 dwellings have been found to be infested in varying degrees. In all cases the dwellings were treated with an approved insecticide and D.D.T., and upon subsequent visits it was observed that the treatments had been quite satisfactory. In no case was any really heavy infestation observed.

Infestations of cockroaches proved to be most troublesome during the past year, but again liquid insecticide proved to be quite efficient.

In order to carry out this work 107 visits were necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk and Dairies.

The inspections and improvements to the milk producing establishments throughout the area which have been completed during the past few years are now showing results. At the end of the year there were 99 milk producers on the register, showing a decrease of 2 over the previous year, the number of registered cow sheds being 161. In addition to the visits re sampling, etc., 208 inspections were completed.

It was not found necessary to serve notice requiring major reconstruction during the year, and the few outstanding farms where major works were required have now been satisfactorily completed. It is again pleasing to note the satisfactory state of cleanliness which exists in the majority of the sheds, also the improvement in the handling and storage of the milk, and the attention which is now being given to the cleanliness of the equipment.

There are, unfortunately, several dairies which cannot be considered completely adequate or ideal, and efforts are being made to find suitable sites for the completing of dairy premises. Even so, no justifiable complaint can be made against the standard of cleanliness maintained in what could be considered inadequate dairies.

The Department has again offered the services to the farmers during the late spring in order to suppress any fly nuisance. I am pleased to report that again the farmers have availed themselves of the offer to spray the dairies, cow sheds, manure steads, etc., during early May. The results obtained have been very beneficial. The persistence of D.D.T. has been demonstrated in more than one instance, by reason of the fact that where stables have been sprayed one year and this work has not been undertaken the following year, it has been observed that the D.D.T. deposit has still been toxic and the fly nuisance in the stables negligible.

Milk Sampling.

Regular sampling of all farms in the area has continued throughout the year. Details of these are set out below :—

	No. of Sampl's Taken	In District		Out District	
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Tuberculin Tested/ Pasteurised	18	17	1	—	—
Tuberculin Tested	13	11	—	1	1
Pasteurised	29	11	1	17	—
Accredited	75	64	6	5	—
For Accredited Production	1	1	—	—	—
Raw Milk	326	256	40	28	2
Totals	462	360	48	51	3

In addition to the above, 6 samples were taken for biological examination for the presence of Tuberculosis. No samples were found to be positive.

Each producer has been sampled on at least 4 occasions, and the results have been quite satisfactory, by reason of the fact that some 63% of the producers have had a clean record, and a further 29% have had only one failure.

Designated Milks.

The results of the designated milks were very encouraging, 136 samples being obtained, 9 of which proved to be unsatisfactory, the only disturbing feature being that 6 samples of Accredited milk out of 69 were unsatisfactory. Only one sample of each of the other designations, namely T.T./Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised proved to be unsatisfactory.

The Pasteurising establishment which was reported on the last occasion as becoming very overcrowded owing to the rapidly expanding business is now established in a larger building. This adapted building is very spacious, and the layout has been designed on modern lines. Up-to-date equipment, including mechanical bottle and can washing apparatus has been installed. The pasteurising of the milk is carried out in six Bach Pasteurisers, using the “ Holder ” process.

At the present time there are 21 producers of designated milks on the register, which consists of 3 Tuberculin Tested farms, 17 Accredited and 1 Pasteurising Plant. This shows an increase of 1 on the previous year.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

Supplementary Licences to Retail Pasteurised Milk	.....	3
Supplementary Licences to Retail Tuberculin Tested Milk		3
Dealer's (Bottling) Licence for T.T./Pasteurised Milk	.....	1
Dealer's Licence to use the designation T.T. Pasteurised	.....	5
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Pasteurised	.....	5
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Tuberculin Tested		1
Licence to use the designation T.T./Pasteurised	.....	1
Licence to use the designation Pasteurised	.....	1

Food Inspection.

Regular inspection of the food shops, restaurants, cafés, etc., has continued throughout the year. Details of the visits, etc., are set out as follows :—

Dairies and Milk Shops	.....	70
Butchers' Shops	.....	63
Public Markets	.....	97
Fish Merchants and Poulterers	.....	17
Grocers	.....	37
Canteens	.....	43
Ice Cream Premises	.....	52
Green-grocers and Fruiterers	.....	16
Restaurants	.....	9
Cow Sheds	.....	207
Pasteurising Plant	.....	4
Slaughter Houses	.....	2
Shops and Meat Stalls	.....	47
Total		664

Special Enquiries.

Re diseased meat in made up goods.....	57
Re diseased mussells	23
Total	80

The general cleanliness of the premises, equipment, utensils, etc., was in the majority of cases quite reasonable, although the provision of washing facilities required improvement. As a result of these inspections, a quantity of food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption. Details of this are set out below :-

			Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat	...	...		1	12
Vegetables...	...	...		2	18
Fruit	...	...	2	0	3
Fish	...	...			25
Flour	...	...	1	0	11
Total	...	...	4	1	13

In addition to this there were 2 tins of dried eggs and 55 tins of evaporated milk.

Ice Cream.

There are 40 premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of Ice Cream. The shops with allocations forward these to one of the well-known Ice Cream manufacturers and in return receive a quota of pre-wrapped Ice Cream. In three instances the allocation is exchanged for an Ice Cream powder (cold mix) and the premises are registered accordingly.

During the year, 52 visits and inspections of these premises were made, which were found to be quite satisfactory. Seven samples of Ice Cream were obtained for bacteriological examination, and all proved to be satisfactory (Grade 1).

Centralization of Slaughter.

Since the Sowerby Bridge Abattoir was closed in October, 1942, the slaughter of animals for human consumption within the Urban District is carried out at the Halifax Public Abattoir.

Butchers' shops in the district are inspected from time to time.

Rodent Control.

The servicing and treatment of premises infested with rats and mice is now carried out by the Foreman of the Department, who acts as Rodent Operative, and has undertaken a period of training for the same by the Technical Staff of the Infestation Branch of the Ministry of Food.

As a result of complaint and general inspection, 50 premises have been inspected and treated, these include the following:—

Refuse disposal sites	....	3	treatments
Destructor	....	1	„
Salvage Depot	....	1	„
Private Dwellings	....	34	„
Business Premises	....	11	„
Total	....	50	„

All these complaints have been dealt with on the lines approved by the Ministry of Food. The only large infestation observed in the entire area was confined to the Milner Royd controlled tip. This, together with other complaints has been satisfactorily dealt with.

In accordance with the Ministry of Food Circular N.S.19 the sewers of the area have received the full treatment. Details of the first and second treatments are set out in the following tables,

Treatment No. 1

Section	No. of Man-holes	No. not baited	No. baited	Pre-bait Taken			Poison Taken
				C	P	Total Takes	Total Takes
Sowerby/Triangle	65	—	65	7	1	8	7
Mill Bank/Triangle ...	69	—	69	10	3	13	9
Luddenden Foot Dist.	77	—	77	9	—	9	8
Sowerby/Ludd. Foot....	99	—	99	12	—	12	9
Midgley District	67	—	67	6	2	8	7
Beechwood	92	87	5	—	—	—	—
Sow. Bridge. Sec. 1	92	31	61	6	3	9	8
Sow. Bridge. Sec. 2	124	86	38	11	—	11	9
Sow. Bridge. Sec. 3	121	36	85	5	—	5	5

Treatment No. 2

Section	No. of Man-holes	No. not baited	No. baited	Pre-bait Taken			Poison Taken
				C	P	Total Takes	Total Takes
Sow. Bridge. Sec. 1	92	72	20	2	—	2	2
Sow. Bridge. Sec. 2	124	81	43	9	—	9	6
Sow. Bridge. Sec. 3	121	106	15	3	1	4	2
Sowerby/Triangle	65	50	15	2	—	2	1
Mill Bank/Triangle	69	36	33	—	—	—	—
Midgley District	67	44	23	—	—	—	—
Luddenden Foot Dist.	77	53	24	4	2	6	5
Sowerby/Ludd. Foot....	99	76	23	6	3	9	7

C—Complete take

P—Partial take

From the above tables it will be observed that not all the man holes have been baited. This is due to a test bait being carried out on certain lengths of the Council's sewer which were found to be comparatively free from infestation. Accordingly, these were excluded from the main treatment.

When carrying out the treatments of the sewers in the area, the poison used for the first treatment consisted of sausage rusk as a pre-bait and 2½% zinc phosphide used on the fourth day as a poison. The second treatment consisted of bread mash as a pre-bait and 10% arsenic as the poison. The post baiting which was carried out in the more heavily infested portions of the sewerage system was quite satisfactory.

In conclusion, may I record my appreciation of the keen interest shown by the Chairman, Councillor A. Sutcliffe, in all phases of the work appertaining to the Health Department, also to the Health Committee for their unfailing courtesy at all times.

The valuable assistance and guidance given so readily by Dr. J. Lyons, Medical Officer of Health, has been greatly appreciated.

My appreciation is also due to the thorough manner in which the work of the Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Holmes, is carried out, which has added in no small way to the progress made by the Department. Also to the Clerical Staff of the Public Health Department, together with the Foreman and Staff of the Cleansing Department.

In addition, I should like to pay tribute to all the Officials of the Council, who have so kindly co-operated in supplying general information for this Report.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

WM. E. FOSTER,
A.I.M.S.E., M.S.I.A.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

